

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AEC-11 CIAE-00 H-03 INR-11 IO-14 L-03

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5133

INFO USMISSION BERLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 14834

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, PFOR, GW, US, UK, FR

SUBJECT: FRG NOTE ON EXTENSION TO BERLIN OF
BACTERIOLOGICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION

REFS: (A) STATE 184080

(B) BERLIN 1427

(C) BONN 12191

1. AIDE MEMOIRE BASED ON POINTS REFTELS DELIVERED TO VANWELL'S DEPUTY BLECH SEPT. 18 BY EMBOFF (COPIES BEING POUCHED USBER AND EUR/CE). WHEN ACCEPTING NOTE, BLECH SAID HE UNDERSTOOD SITUATION BUT VANWELL HAS STRONG PERSONAL INTEREST IN PRINCIPLE OF EXTENSION TO BERLIN OF ALL AGREEMENTS ENTERED INTO BY FRG. EMBOFF RESPONDED THAT MATTER HAD BEEN CAREFULLY CONSIDERED AND OUR VIEWS WERE FIRM. HE EXPRESSED HOPE THAT FRG WOULD REALIZE THIS AND LET MATTER REST.

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2. COPIES OF AIDES MEMOIRE HAVE BEEN PASSED TO UK AND

FRENCH, NEITHER OF WHOM HAS BEEN APPROACHED ON THIS BY FRG. AS WILL BE RECALLED, FRENCH ARE VERY STRONGLY OPPOSED TO EXTENSION, WHILE UK FAVORS IT BASED ON BELIEF IN VALUE OF UNIVERSALITY (ONCE US AND FRENCH POSITIONS WERE FIXED, UK AGREED REMAIN SILENT IN QUADRIpartite DISCUSSIONS OF MATTER). IN LIGHT OF TWO SOVIET PROTESTS ON NPT EXTENSION, HOWEVER, WE HAVE SEEN SIGNS THAT UK JUST AS HAPPY THE NEGATIVE DECISION WAS TAKEN ON THE BACTERIOLOGICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION (PART OF EARLY UK ARGUMENT FAVORING EXTENSION IN THIS CASE WAS THAT SOVIETS HAD NOT COMPLAINED ABOUT EXTENSION NPT).

3. COMMENT: WE PLAN TO PLACE SITUATION BRIEFLY ON "HOLD," TO SEE IF FRG WILL TAKE FURTHER ACTION, BEFORE PROCEEDING AS TO WHAT FURTHER ALLIES NEED TO DO ABOUT REQUEST IN BERLIN FOR ALLIED AGREEMENT TO EXTEND. OUR PRESENT THINKING IS TO GIVE THE FRG THE CHOICE OF HAVING REQUEST WITHDRAWN (WHICH THEY INDICATED EARLIER THEY WOULD FAVOR IN ORDER TO AVOID PUBLIC REBUFF) OR OF HAVING AK ISSUE REJECTION. WOULD WELCOME USBER COMMENTS ON RELATIVE MERITS OF THESE ALTERNATIVES.
HILLENBRAND

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